



Volunteer Opportunities



What is El Morro?

Rising above the valley floor, a massive sandstone bluff was a welcome landmark for weary travelers. A reliable waterhole hidden at its base made El Morro (or Inscription Rock) a popular campsite. Beginning in the late 1500s Spanish, and later, Americans passed by El Morro. While they rested in its shade and drank from the pool, many carved their signatures, dates, and messages. Before the Spanish, petroglyphs were carved by Ancestral Puebloans living on top of the bluff over 700 years ago. Today, El Morro National Monument protects over 2,000 inscriptions and petroglyphs.

Why volunteer?

Throughout the history of the national parks, volunteers have carried on a proud tradition. Beginning with the establishment of the first national parks, private citizens have played a vital role in the development of the national park system. By volunteering, you can offer your time and skills to help protect and

maintain the national parks, including El Morro. It's a great way to get to know the cultural and natural resources that may be in your own backyard! And if you're interested in a career in the national parks, volunteering is the best way to get the experience you'll need.

What are the volunteer opportunities?

After a long day on the road, visitors to El Morro could sure use a friendly smile, warm greeting, and some helpful information. The monument is small but busy, and there are opportunities for visitor orientation, trail patrol, and interpretive programs. Live in the local area? Consider volunteering one or two

days per week. For full-time (32 hours per week) commitments lasting two or more months, El Morro can provide free housing in a beautiful setting. We will also provide you all the support and training needed to make this a fun and challenging job.

How do I find out more?

We are happy to answer any questions you may have about volunteering at El Morro. Please contact Sarah

Beckwith, Volunteer Coordinator, at (505) 783-4226, or by email at sarah_beckwith@nps.gov.